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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

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TOPIC Oranienburg Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

19 June 1953

ILLEGIB

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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1. During the second half of April 1953, construction work at Oranienburg airfield was proceeding only slowly, and the output dropping about 50 percent. A construction superintendent stated that all target dates had to be postponed. The taxiway which had been designed to branch off in a wide curve toward Wilhelmshof from the southern end of the runway was recently redesigned to lead in an acute angle directly to Wilhelmshof and the excavations for the wide curve were filled up again. Excavations were made for 10 more revetments in addition to seven revetments which had been previously reported. Three foundations for these new revetments were completed by 26 April 1953. The fence around the airfield consisted of wooden poles, 2.40 meters high, which were connected with 11 vertical barbed wires and two diagonal barbed wires. The construction of the fence was completed by late April. Grass was sowed after the leveling of the western and southern field. During the second half of April, buried bomb shells were again searched for in the area west of the runway by 100 newly arrived Soviet soldiers. A number of bombs and shells were found.

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2. During the second half of April, eight revetments were under construction south and east of the hangar. Oranienburg airfield was to be completed by August 1953. it was planned to have Bau Union Leipzig replaced by another Bau Union to save separation allowances.

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3. In mid-April, repair work was started on the conference hall of the Hans Schemm Schule at a computed cost of 6,000 eastmarks. 1 On 16 and 23 April, Major Yegorov (fnu), supply officer of the air force construction unit, and Sergeant Lukyanov (fnu) visited the Eberswalde special construction office and raised objections to the price charged for the Soviet star on the ceiling of the conference hall. 2 On 30 April, the chief of the Oranienburg Bauleitung was ordered to Eberswalde for a large conference presided over by Rauenheimer (fnu), chief of Eberswalde special construction bureau. The work orders for the air force section of the restricted Weisse Stadt area were prepared by the Neuruppin Kesh. During the week after 15 April, the Hans Schemm Schule was occupied by an estimated 300 air force personnel. The buildings previously reported as objects Nos 46, 47, 48 and 49 were also occupied by air force personnel. A dispensary with a doctor was in Object No 49.

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Objects Nos 57 and 58 were occupied by an air force administration. Object No 54 quartered sixteen female air force soldiers. Objects Nos 55 and 56 served as quarters for air force sergeants.

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4. During the second half of April, soldiers wearing air force epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets with driver insignia were observed in the northern portion of the restricted Weisse Stadt area which was occupied by the air force. 3
5. Prior to 24 April, seven revetments were in the vicinity of the hangar and five additional revetments were under construction along the canal. The filling in against the concrete revetment walls was started in about mid-April.
6. In the morning on 19 April, three shells were exploded at Oranienburg airfield with the detonation heard as far as Oranienburg. [redacted] other explosions, allegedly air mines, were still at the field. The undermined area was guarded by Soviets. It was rumored that the Leipzig Bau Union was to be replaced by another Bau Union. 1

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1. [redacted] Comment. The construction work at Oranienburg airfield was proceeding slowly. While the erection of revetments continued, the construction of the taxiway was delayed by replanning. If the Leipzig Bau Union is actually to be replaced, the target date for the completion in August will probably not be met.
2. [redacted] Comment. Major Yegorov or Egoryev was previously reported. The name of Sgt Lukyanov is reported for the first time.

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